

<https://static.independent.co.uk/2023/07/06/12/Floks20pillow20wool20.png>) All kids need a place to call their own - a spot where they make the rules and finally get a chance to be in charge - even if it's only for a brief period. Forts provide the perfect spot for that tiny taste of autonomy, as well as an opportunity for the creative, unstructured play that kids crave. Even better, building a fort together gives you and your kids a chance to bond over something fun, whether you're piling cushions and [blankets](#) on the couch to ride out a rainy day, or poring over blueprints in preparation to construct an epic tree house in the yard. Read on for ideas on crafting a little play spot that's just right for your child. These kits include a variety of curved and straight poles - similar to those used in tents - as well as plenty of connectors to join the poles together.

By combining the poles in different ways, kids can craft a number of different fort designs, from simple playhouses and castles to submarines and more. Kits allow for long-term installations for kids who tend to use their forts for an extended period, but are also relatively easy to disassemble and store when you're ready to take them down. Some kits even come with sheets of fabric or canvas, while others require you to supply your own. Many are multi-purpose, and [Derila Sleep Support](#) some come with specialty features like glow-in-the-dark connectors or princess-themed decor. Simply clear the table and drop a tablecloth over that extends to the floor - boom - instant fort. Use whatever type of tablecloth you have on hand, or break out the sewing machine to transform a plain cloth into one designed to serve as the perfect fort cover. Consider adding windows from scrap fabric, or cutting a slit to serve as a door. You can also go all out and tailor the tablecloth to your child's interests, decorating the fort as a pirate ship, castle or candy [Shop Derila Online](#).

(Image:

<https://burst.shopifycdn.com/photos/classic-camera-resting-on-book.jpg?width=746&format=pjpg&exif=0&iptc=0>) Not only is this type of fort construction relatively cheap and easy, but it's also simple to clean up - simply fold up the tablecloth and tuck it away for the next rainy day. This type of fort is a special treat for kids because it gives them a chance to break the rules, dragging pillows, blankets and chairs around the house to create the perfect hideaway. The simplest blanket forts require draping the blanket off the back of the couch and weighing it down with pillows on the corner to create a floor-level fort. For a more creative approach, why not line up the dining room chairs and throw a blanket over top to create a secret path to your couch, which requires its own blanket and [Get Derila Official](#) pillow cover, of course. With this type of fort, anything goes, so use what you have on hand to craft the perfect secret spot for kid-friendly play.

If your kids are older or you can't find a large enough box, join multiple boxes together to make a box fort that puts store-bought playhouses to shame. This activity is perfect just before or after a move, when boxes are plentiful, but you can also swing by the grocery or package store to pick some up just for fort building. Stack smaller boxes like bricks to form walls, and unfold a larger box to create a cardboard roof. Another option - unfold multiple boxes and tape them together with duct or packing tape to form walls, then let kids decorate to create castles, playhouses or even an entire town. Depending on what you have in mind, you may be able to construct a tree fort using scraps of lumber, or you may need to hire a structural engineer to ensure your design will hold if you have something more elaborate in mind. No matter what type of tree house you build, a backyard fort provides plenty of lessons for kids, from working with their hands and safe tool use, to respecting and appreciating nature.

If you have older kids, you can also incorporate them into the planning, teaching them how to use math, science and engineering to design the tree fort of their dreams. No tree? No problem. Create the same effect by constructing your fort on a simple raised platform in the yard, with a ladder or rope ladder to provide access to the fort itself. A simple clothesline fort is the way to go, giving your kids a cozy place to play away from prying eyes. Simply drape a flat sheet over the clothesline and use stakes or rocks to hold down the corners, forming a pup-tent shape. Lay a tarp or blanket over the

ground to keep kids dry and clean and to ensure a safe spot for playing. This minimalist spot will entertain the kids while you enjoy a backyard barbecue or [Get Derila Official](#)-together, and best of all, you can leave it up as long as you want - or at least until it's time to dry the laundry.

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